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PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

(Continued from p. 56.)

14 MAY 1886.—The 120th meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 14 May 1886. In the absence of the president, Mr. P. S. Abbot was chosen chairman.

Mr. S: H. Scudder showed wood-cuts from Miall and Denny's work "The structure and life-history of the cockroach," and exhibited impressions from the different plates used in printing the plate of *ficrinæ* in his own work on New England butterflies. These impressions illustrated in a clear manner the process by which the figures are toned to their right color.

Mr. R. Hayward exhibited specimens of the species of *Nebria* collected by him in southwestern Colorado during the past summer (1885) and remarked briefly on their distribution and relative abundance. Among the species obtained were *N. ovipennis* (?), *N. purpurata*, *N. obliqua*, *N. trifaria* and others. The specimens referred to *N. ovipennis* were all found at altitudes above 10,000 ft. Many specimens of *N. purpurata* were obtained from under the bark of logs which had been washed down by a tributary of the Gunnison river.

Mr. F. S. Child showed two specimens of a species of *Cassida* from the cave of Elephantine, India.

Mr. G: Dimmock exhibited a case of some insect or spider, which had been found on a tree. It was made of grass and had a perfect lid.

11 JUNE 1886.—The 121st meeting was held at the secretary's room, No. 36 Grays, Cambridge, 11 June 1886. In the absence of the president, Mr. S: H. Scudder was chosen chairman.

Messrs. S: H. Scudder and R. Hayward, remarked briefly on a collecting trip, which they had recently made to the White Mts., N. H.

Mr. S: H. Scudder stated that he was fairly confident of having seen *Chionobas semidea* near the summit of Mt. Washington. The species has not been previously noted earlier than the first week in July, and if the supposed specimens of *C. semidea* belonged in reality to that species, it would seem that there must be two broods in a season.

8 OCT. 1886.—The 122d meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 8 Oct. 1886. In the absence of the president, Dr. G: Dimmock was chosen chairman.

Mr. J. H. Emerton exhibited a figure of a male and female pink grasshopper (a variety *Amblycorypha oblongifolia*), which he had drawn for Mr. S: H. Scudder.

Mr. S: H. Scudder remarked at some length on this variety. The first recorded specimen of abnormally red locustarian was taken in the mountains of Pennsylvania, but belonged to a distinct species, *A. rotundifolia*. Four specimens of the red form of *A. oblongifolia* were taken during the past summer at Woods Holl, some of which were seen by Mr. Scudder while alive. They ate golden rod (*Solidago*) with avidity. Mr. Scudder has been looking up the bibliography of the subject, in hopes to remark further upon it at a subsequent meeting of the club. Brunner von Wattenwyl records a specimen from Pennsylvania with violet elytra, and also mentions a dimorphic form of

the neighboring genus *Scaphura* from Brazil. It has been suggested that since chlorophyll is found in certain insect tissues, the color might be changed by frost, but this could not have been possible in the Woods Holl specimens, as they were found too early in the season.

Mr. J. H. Emerton exhibited figures of the eggs of diurnal lepidoptera, which he had drawn for Mr. S: H. Scudder, a figure of the micropyle of a species of hesperid, and figures of the larvae of various butterflies.

Mr. S: H. Scudder showed a figure of the pupa of *Feniseca tarquinius* and remarked at some length on the habits of this interesting species. The chrysalis has a curiously expanded cremaster. The larva differs very much from those of other copper-butterflies with which it has been placed, by having large protruding legs and a scarcely retractile head, while in its earlier stage, according to Mr. W: H. Edwards, it is completely cylindrical, and in no way onisciform. The egg is not pitted, but only possesses polygonal marking.

Dr. G: Dimmock asked if there had been any study of the mouth-parts of the larva of *Feniseca*, with reference to any modification for its insect food.

Mr. J. H. Emerton exhibited a drawing of a wasp in the act of eating a fly. [See PSYCHE, May 1888, v. 5, p. 54.]

Mr. C: W. Woodworth stated that the only wasps that sleep with their mandibles grasping upon grass or sticks were males of *sphingidae*.

Mr. S: H. Scudder showed eggs of *Argynnis idalia*. Most of the eggs were laid upon the lace with which the butterflies had been covered during transportation, and not upon the violet leaves which had been placed with the butterflies. Some of the eggs were laid upon the lace while in the cars, the butterflies being in a dim light under a seat. All the eggs were pushed through by the ovipositor of the female so as to stand on the outside of the lace.

9 APRIL 1886.—The 119th meeting was

held at 61 Sacramento St., 9 April 1886. In the absence of the president, Dr. G: Dimmock was chosen chairman.

The additions to the library were announced by the librarian.

The secretary stated that a reply had been sent to the invitation to attend a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Verein für naturkunde zu cassel.

Nominations nos. 136-142 were acted on and the following persons elected to Active membership: Prof. T: J. Burril, Champaign Ill: W: H. Garman, Champaign Ill: Clarence M. Weed, Champaign Ill: C: A. Hart, Champaign Ill: T: F. Hunt, Champaign Ill: Prof. C. Robertson, Carlinville, Ill: C: W: Woodworth, Champaign Ill.

Mr. S. H. Scudder spoke of a recent paper by Dr. Paul Oppenheim of Berlin upon fossil lepidoptera, in which new light was thrown upon some hitherto insufficiently known fossils from Solenhofen which had been referred to hemiptera, lepidoptera and hymenoptera. Dr. Oppenheim claimed, and apparently with some reason, that they should be referred to a distant archaic type to be considered the progenitors of lepidoptera. Two new Jurassic forms were described from Siberia which should probably be referred to the same archaic type, though looked upon by Oppenheim as true lepidoptera.

The Club then visited the laboratory of Dr. Dimmock, who showed his apparatus for rearing insects in constant increased temperature. He also showed some specimens of *Hippodamia convergens* which had been thus reared, and remarked on the difference in time of development and the variations caused by this artificial method of rearing. He further remarked on observations he had made as regards the time of appearance of the spots in various species of *coccinellidae*.

Prof. Alpheus Hyatt said that he had been much interested in Dr. Dimmock's experiments on the acceleration of development, as it has a close bearing on his own studies.